

**REMARKS**

Claims 105-108 have been amended in the present amendment. In summary of the outstanding Office Action, claims 105-108 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,959,945 (Kleiman). Claim 107 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kleiman in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,044,047 (Kulas).

Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the present amendments and following remarks.

**Rejections under 35 USC § 102(e) and 103(a)**

Claims 105-108 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly unpatentable over Kleiman and claim 107 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kleiman in view of Kulas.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner for bringing to Applicants' attention allowable subject matter and advising Applicants to amend said allowable subject matter into the pending claims to expedite prosecution. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 105-108 of the application are in condition for allowance.

However, Applicants have made the present amendment solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution, and by the present amendment do not make any representations concerning the patentability of the claims as they stood previous to the present amendment.

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**Application No.:** 09/855,992  
**Office Action Dated:** October 26, 2004

**PATENT**

### **CONCLUSION**

Applicants believe that the present reply is responsive to each point raised by the Examiner in the Office Action and Applicants submit that claims 105-108 of the application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience is earnestly solicited. However, should the Examiner find the claims as presented herein to not be allowable for any reason, Applicants' undersigned representative earnestly requests a telephone conference at (206) 332-1392 with both the Examiner and the Examiner's Supervisor to discuss the basis for the Examiner's continued rejection in light of the Applicant's amendments presented herein.

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